

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION INFORMATION LETTER

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RULING ON JUICE CLASSES TOMATO AS VEGETABLE

In sales tax ruling 511, which appeared in the Internal Revenue Bulletin issued September 26, it is held that tomato juice is not taxable as a fruit juice or as a still drink. The ruling states:

"Advice is requested whether tomato juice is taxable under the provisions of section 615(a) of the Revenue Act of 1932.

"A tomato is a vegetable and not a fruit. Not being a fruit, tomato juice is not subject to the tax imposed by section 615(a)3 of the Revenue Act of 1932. It is also held that tomato juice is not a beverage within the meaning of section 615(a)4 of that Act, imposing a tax on still drinks."

REQUESTS FOR TARIFF INVESTIGATIONS DENIED

The U. S. Tariff Commission announced on November 1 that it had denied and dismissed without prejudice the applications for investigations on fresh tomatoes and green peppers. The tomato investigation request was filed in July by the Southern California Restaurant Association of Los Angeles, its purpose being to obtain a decrease in duty. The green pepper investigation was asked in September by the Equitable Tariff League of California and was also for the purpose of securing a lower duty.

STOCKS OF CANNED FOODS ON OCTOBER 1

Canners' stocks of each of the seven canned foods on which the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce collects quarterly statistics were substantially lower on October 1, 1932, than on the corresponding date in 1931.

Distributors' stocks of these seven items on October 1 were 7.6 per cent below those of October 1 last year.

The following figures as compiled by the Foodstuffs Division do not represent total stocks for any item. Instead, they represent the change in holdings based upon a cross section of the canners and distributors, and are therefore representative of conditions in the industry and trade.

COMPARISON OF STOCKS OF SEVEN CANNED FOODS IN CANNERS' HANDS
(Based on reports from the same firms for each date)

Commodity	No. of firms reporting	Representative stocks sold and unsold		Decrease Oct. 1, 1932 compared with Oct. 1, 1931	
		Oct. 1, 1932	Oct. 1, 1931	Cases	Per cent
Peas	114	5,731,591	7,001,271	1,959,680	25
Corn	141	8,865,633	11,644,872	2,779,239	24
Tomatoes	223	a 708,840	a 1,472,503	763,663	52
Green and wax beans	161	2,871,634	3,733,002	861,458	23
Peaches	42	4,337,121	6,332,474	1,995,353	32
Pears	48	1,494,535	2,315,111	820,576	35
Pineapple	6	5,483,858	8,893,320	3,409,462	38

Commodity	No. of firms reporting	Representative stocks sold and unsold		Increase July 1 to Oct. 1, 1932	
		Oct. 1, 1932	July 1, 1932	Cases	Per cent
Peas	114	5,731,591	1,723,092	4,008,499	233
Corn	141	8,865,633	4,835,243	4,030,390	83
Tomatoes	223	a 708,840	1,033,318	c 324,478	c 31
Green and wax beans	161	2,871,634	1,190,467	1,681,167	141
Peaches	42	4,337,121	3,068,812	1,268,309	41
Pears	48	1,494,535	867,771	626,764	124
Pineapple	6	5,483,858	3,937,596	1,546,262	39

a Old pack stocks only for tomatoes as of October 1, each year.

b Percentages from the report for October 1, 1931.

c Decrease.

COMPARISON OF STOCKS OF SEVEN CANNED FOODS IN HANDS OF 450 DISTRIBUTORS
(Based on reports from the same firms for each date)

Commodity	Stocks		Change Oct. 1, 1932 compared with Oct. 1, 1931
	Oct. 1, 1932	Oct. 1, 1931	
Peas	1,041,595	1,137,753	-8.5
Corn	1,054,449	1,054,488	a
Tomatoes	1,009,788	1,269,280	-15.7
Green and wax beans	541,324	596,636	-9.3
Peaches	494,613	526,823	-6.1
Pears	108,391	167,772	-35.4
Pineapple	487,614	440,123	+10.8
Total of seven items	4,797,774	5,192,875	-7.6

Commodity	Stocks		Increase Oct. 1 over July 1, 1932	Increase Oct. 1, 1932 over July 1, 1931
	Oct. 1, 1932	July 1, 1932	Per cent	Per cent
Peas	1,041,595	757,352	37.5	10.1
Corn	1,054,449	903,280	16.7	12.6
Tomatoes	1,009,788	782,186	36.8	0.7
Green and wax beans	541,324	442,042	22.5	14.0
Peaches	494,613	409,304	20.8	14.2
Pears	108,391	127,938	c 15.3	c 5.1
Pineapples	487,614	530,408	c 8.1	1.7
Total of seven items	4,797,774	3,952,600	21.4	6.9

a No change.

b Percentages from the report for October 1, 1931.

c Decrease.

SARDINE IMPORTS INCREASE OVER 57 PER CENT

Imports of sardines in oil for the first nine months of 1932 amounted to 31,909,148 pounds valued at \$2,669,808 as compared with 20,273,882 pounds valued at \$2,783,806 in the corresponding period of 1931. The increase in quantity was 11,635,312 pounds and in value only \$111,998. The value per pound of the 1931 imports was 13.7 cents and in 1932 it was less than 8.4 cents. This decrease of nearly 39 per cent in unit value explains the gain in shipment of foreign sardines to the American market.

Imports from Norway increased from 14,295,860 pounds to 22,658,715 pounds, while imports from Portugal increased from 3,895,446 pounds to 7,453,589 pounds.

CORN PACK IN 1932

The 1932 corn pack according to figures compiled by the Foodstuffs Division of the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce was equivalent to 9,357,642 standard cases of No. 2's, as compared with 19,414,667 cases in 1931, a decrease of 52 per cent. The 1932 pack was the smallest since 1921. The pack of whole grain corn decreased only 27 per cent, while the decrease in the pack of cream style corn was 55 per cent. The following table shows the pack, in standard cases, by states:

State	1931 Cases	1932 Cases
Illinois	3,788,167	2,024,315
Maine	1,245,375	1,070,574
Maryland	1,955,761	800,868
Minnesota	1,834,802	2,017,770
New York	1,080,378	495,729
Pennsylvania	237,048	87,656
Wisconsin	711,618	140,203
Delaware	181,382	96,770
Indiana	2,362,179	1,138,440
Iowa	3,227,229	444,200
Nebraska	223,503	140,867
Ohio	1,870,833	405,145
All other states	606,332	495,105
Total	19,414,667	9,357,642

The pack of cream style and whole grain corn in 1931 and 1932, in different sizes of containers, is shown in the following table.

Size	1931		1932	
	Cream style Cases	Whole grain Cases	Cream style Cases	Whole grain Cases
No. 1 (48 to case)	574,079	78,393	188,558	37,797
No. 2 (24 to case)	15,209,852	1,821,635	6,881,874	1,219,768
No. 10 (6 to case)	580,057	66,718	355,295	71,606
Miscellaneous	655,020	94,438	251,503	116,361
Total	17,019,008	2,061,184	7,677,230	1,445,592

The pack of cream style and whole grain corn, by states, in 1931 and 1932, in standard cases, is shown in the following table:

State	1931		1932	
	Cream style Cases	Whole grain Cases	Cream style Cases	Whole grain Cases
Illinois	3,262,953	525,214	1,596,538	427,777
Maine	(a)	(a)	1,030,028	40,546
Maryland	1,469,777	485,984	608,821	192,047
Minnesota	1,183,694	651,168	1,341,695	676,075
New York	1,018,555	61,823	451,113	44,616
Pennsylvania	100,108	127,940	25,360	62,856
Wisconsin	711,618	140,203
Delaware, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio	8,957,110	153,391	2,100,080	59,342
All other states	649,730	46,602	490,567	4,538
Total	17,362,545	2,052,122	7,850,345	1,507,297

a Not separately stated.

b Grouped to avoid disclosing activities of individual concerns; 1931 figures include Maine pack.

HEARING ON CANNED FISH IMPORTS

At hearings held by the Customs Bureau of the Treasury Department on October 25th, representatives of the fish-canning industry presented evidence as to the importation of foreign canned fish at prices below the cost of production of domestic products. Evidence was presented relative to salmon, sardines, tuna, and swordfish.

Largely because of the fall in exchange value of the yen, which is now about 55 per cent below par, Japan is able to offer salmon at prices, duty paid, which are below American production costs. Evidence was also presented to show that Japanese exporters, stopped in their effort to market canned salmon in France because French authorities had discovered this salmon was actually packed in Russia and was therefore barred from entry under the French quota system, had turned to the United States as a market.

The decline in the value of the Norwegian krone, now about 37 per cent below par, has made it possible for that country to market in the United States a greatly increased quantity of sardines at prices which American canners are unable to meet, with the result that this year's pack of sardines in Maine is little more than one-third that of an average year.

The situation as regards canned tuna is much like that of canned salmon, with Japan being able to undersell the American product, largely because of the depreciation of the yen.

On October 24th President Hoover, in a letter to the Tariff Commission, urged the Commission to expedite its investigation

of certain tariff schedules, among which are the canned fish and canned vegetable schedules. The Commission has already held public hearings on canned tuna and clams.

PRODUCTION FORECAST OF SNAP BEANS FOR CANNING

On a harvested acreage 45 per cent less than that of 1931, the estimated production of snap beans in 1932 is nearly 38 per cent below the 1931 production and is about 37 per cent below the average production for the five-year period preceding 1931, according to a report issued by the Division of Crop and Live-stock Estimates on November 3. Compared with the peak production years of 1929 and 1930, the 1932 production is less than one-half the production in either of these years. The total estimated production in 1932 is 42,760 tons compared with 68,700 tons in 1931, 90,400 tons in 1930, and 92,300 tons in 1929. The five-year average production for the period, 1926-1930, is 68,100 tons.

The average yield per acre is estimated at 1.48 tons in 1932, 1.30 tons in 1931, and 1.47 tons for the five-year period, 1926-1930. Yields per acre were below the five-year average in Pennsylvania, Maryland, South Carolina, Tennessee, Mississippi, Arkansas and Colorado. In other areas, per acre yields equaled or exceeded the five-year averages.

State	Harvested Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Production	
	1931	1932	1931	1932	1931	1932
	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Acres</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Tons</i>
Maine	950	510	2.8	2.3	2,700	1,200
New York	7,300	4,900	1.8	1.7	13,100	8,300
Pennsylvania	3,200	1,900	1.4	1.2	4,500	2,300
Indiana	2,000	800	.3	1.3	600	1,000
Michigan	5,500	3,000	1.0	1.5	5,500	4,500
Wisconsin	7,200	3,600	1.2	1.5	8,000	5,400
Delaware	1,550	400	1.0	1.4	1,600	560
Maryland	7,300	4,000	1.4	1.2	10,200	4,800
South Carolina ..	1,000	600	.6	1.0	600	600
Tennessee	1,800	1,000	.8	1.2	1,400	1,200
Mississippi	2,000	1,400	.7	.7	1,400	1,000
Arkansas	2,040	1,300	.7	.9	1,400	1,200
Louisiana	1,400	700	.9	1.1	1,300	800
Colorado	1,100	900	2.0	2.0	2,200	1,800
Utah	180	300	3.3	3.1	600	900
Washington	550	200	3.3	4.6	1,800	900
Oregon	400	400	4.0	5.0	1,600	2,000
California	650	250	2.6	3.5	1,700	900
Other states*	6,590	2,720	1.2	1.25	7,900	3,400
U. S. Total....	52,710	28,940	1.30	1.48	68,700	42,760

* "Other states" include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Ohio, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

IMPORTS OF JAPANESE CANNED TUNA STEADILY INCREASE

Imports of canned tuna from Japan have steadily increased this year. In January the imports were 41,697 pounds valued at \$7,456, while in September they amounted to 1,185,562 pounds valued at \$148,158. For the nine months ending with September the imports of Japanese canned tuna have aggregated 4,030,486 pounds valued at \$529,101.

RACKETEERING AGAIN BEING PRACTICED

About a year ago "racketeering" in canned foods developed to such an extent that the New York Journal of Commerce published an article in the nature of a warning to canners anxious to obtain a market for their packs. This article was reproduced in the Information Letter for October 31, 1931.

With the close of this year's pack, the racketeering game is again being worked, according to information reaching the Association. In a letter describing the racketeer's methods a New York firm states:

Their method, which is quite well known in this market, is to use fictitious names, and, in many instances, names of concerns who have had good ratings and who have retired from business, or to use a similar name so they can fool the seller should the seller make credit inquiries. They, of course, write to practically all out-of-town packers, asking for quotations, particularly packers who they believe are not represented by a legitimate food broker. Of course, they try to purchase goods on open terms and they have certainly been successful in accomplishing this. Then, after these racketeers obtain the goods, they undersell the market, and every legitimate operation in the food industry suffers.

During the past ten days we received a letter from one of our packers, which he referred to us. Our check-up on the party who wrote the letter leads us to believe he is just another racketeer and that is why we are writing to you. We believe, if you have not already done so, it may prove advantageous if you address a note to all of your members warning them that this practice seems to be continuing, and that if they receive any inquiries direct from an unknown person or concern they should make a very careful investigation and refer such inquiries to their representatives. We feel that in this way, they would be apt to get a better posting and information in some instances than if they wrote to individuals for credit references, where such references have been furnished by these racketeers.

We know of one particular instance where one of these racketeers, who has now been indicted and convicted, used the same name as a legitimate firm which has a good name and rating (although the racketeer used a different address); and he was able to obtain a fair size shipment of canned fish on open terms. The concern that shipped the goods had made a credit inquiry through its bank and undoubtedly due to some clerical error on the part of the bank, the packer received the credit rating of the legitimate concern, as the bank apparently failed to check close enough on

the address. The packer, of course, is now out the money, and while we mention just this one case it is reasonable to assume that there are many similar cases.

WINTER VEGETABLE CROPS IN CUBA TO BE SMALLER

The outlook for the winter vegetable crop in Cuba is not bright, according to the American consulate at Habana. Plantings of practically all vegetables shipped to the United States are expected to be reduced. The early tomato crop will be from 25 to 50 per cent less than last year, lima beans 40 per cent less, and peppers 10 per cent less.

TOMATO PRODUCTS IMPORTS

	Canned Tomatoes		Tomato Paste	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
1931				
January	5,611,727	\$198,377	796,143	\$62,736
February	7,375,831	235,570	873,380	75,763
March	7,000,827	243,760	907,242	66,645
April	9,932,389	304,172	1,642,420	149,668
May	8,092,063	280,368	953,333	68,233
June	5,517,949	201,246	1,047,352	88,704
July	3,471,706	125,836	1,129,600	84,819
August	3,579,515	124,599	2,564,658	218,210
September	3,405,354	111,513	366,012	23,508
Total	53,987,361	\$1,894,450	10,280,149	\$838,286
1932				
January	10,461,256	307,270	977,691	60,177
February	11,743,475	341,551	652,718	41,161
March	10,902,412	329,724	716,882	44,600
April	11,435,615	388,655	961,944	70,524
May	6,942,082	251,752	805,181	58,392
June	4,378,685	156,450	649,195	42,962
July	3,291,979	127,073	717,271	50,701
August	1,564,358	57,127	540,432	41,489
September	4,572,890	133,064	1,033,689	74,070
Total	65,287,752	\$2,092,866	7,054,903	\$493,076

REPORT ON FISHERY INDUSTRIES IN 1931

The U. S. Bureau of Fisheries has just issued, as Appendix II to the Report of the Commissioner of Fisheries, its annual bulletin entitled "Fishery Industries of the United States, 1931." This is a publication of 440 pages describing the operations of the Division of Fishery Industries and furnishing complete statistics on the fisheries of the United States and the production of fishery products. Copies of the bulletin may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., at 25 cents each.

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICES

The index number of wholesale commodity prices as computed by the U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U. S. De-

partment of Labor showed an increase of two-tenths of 1 per cent from August to September. When compared with September, 1931, a decrease of $8\frac{1}{4}$ per cent has been recorded.

Among foods, price increases were reported for butter, cheese, dressed poultry, coffee, oleomargarine, granulated sugar and most canned vegetables. On the other hand, condensed milk, bread, rolled oats, bananas, lamb, mutton, fresh and cured pork, veal, lard and raw sugar averaged lower than in the month before. The group as a whole showed no change in September when compared with August.

Retail food prices in 51 cities showed an average decrease of one-half of 1 per cent on September 15, 1932, when compared with August 15, and an average decrease of about 16 per cent since September 15, 1931.

From August 15 to September 15 this year, the average retail prices of canned red salmon decreased 6 per cent, evaporated milk and canned tomatoes 3 per cent, and canned corn 1 per cent. No change was recorded in the average retail price of pork and beans and canned peas.

PRODUCTION AND STOCKS OF CANNED MILK

	1932 Pounds	1931 Pounds	Change Per cent
Manufacturers' stocks (case goods) Oct. 1:			
Evaporated (34 firms).....	176,197,420	135,617,561	+29.62
Condensed (8 firms).....	18,672,049	20,349,102	-8.25
Total production, September:			
Evaporated (33 firms).....	107,441,003	81,215,989	+32.29
Condensed (7 firms).....	4,607,329	7,281,063	-35.90

DAMPING-OFF OF VEGETABLE SEEDLINGS

The Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y., has issued as Technical Bulletin No. 198 the fourth of its series of reports on damping-off of vegetable seedlings. This fourth paper furnishes the experimental data supporting the recommendation made in an earlier report that dusting tomato seed with copper sulfate monohydrate might be substituted for the copper sulfate soak.

Data are presented showing that copper sulfate monohydrate is effective as a seed treatment for combating damping-off of tomatoes caused by *Pythium ultimum*; more effective than either copper sulfate soak or copper carbonate dust in controlling the pre-emergence phase of the disease, thus increasing stands; and less effective than the former but more effective than the latter in decreasing incidence of disease on emerged seedlings. The material has been demonstrated to be commercially non-

injurious to tomato seedlings, although copper compounds were shown to retard emergence slightly in steamed soil. Its effectiveness does not appear to be reduced by dilution to 25 per cent in kaolin. Anhydrous copper sulfate is equally good as a seed treatment, and adheres somewhat better.

CANNED FOOD EXPORTS IN SEPTEMBER

Articles	September, 1931		September, 1932	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Canned meats, total.....	1,083,743	\$293,805	808,030	\$177,400
Beef	89,941	24,052	56,244	12,724
Pork	799,013	231,493	750,701	148,291
Sausage	71,908	16,335	62,246	12,002
Other	122,881	21,025	28,749	4,392
Canned vegetables, total.....	2,074,395	268,731	1,614,785	126,543
Asparagus	708,011	100,440	478,458	58,734
Baked beans, and pork and beans	442,789	27,720	427,303	14,801
Corn	332,232	18,817	67,354	4,502
Peas	123,073	11,487	68,753	5,921
Soups	338,763	40,588	152,114	17,218
Tomatoes	662,664	33,256	260,160	13,324
Other	366,263	30,423	163,634	11,983
Condensed milk	1,308,890	213,815	570,053	74,082
Evaporated milk	3,659,135	209,606	2,573,930	150,594
Canned fruits, total.....	25,124,242	1,927,418	63,256,137	4,126,057
Apples and applesauce.....	277,580	19,830	740,728	28,134
Apricots	2,102,040	146,302	5,730,840	342,000
Loganberries	517,351	54,911	696,148	60,994
Other berries	130,019	15,003	259,860	19,465
Cherries	55,042	7,139	74,918	6,415
Fruits for salad	3,058,236	360,606	7,777,048	775,178
Grapefruit	377,476	24,924	415,760	28,504
Peaches	6,597,921	436,394	24,940,517	1,381,306
Pears	9,103,290	633,729	20,297,273	1,304,712
Pineapple	2,362,805	187,603	1,758,878	132,700
Prunes	180,848	9,325	159,328	11,372
Other	361,616	31,562	395,230	35,259
Salmon	3,706,029	646,647	3,902,441	426,268
Sardines	3,616,354	246,701	2,198,025	128,359

TRUCK CROP SHIPMENTS SHOW SHARP DECREASE

Carlot shipments of 33 fruits and vegetables during the week ended October 29 were only 18,240 cars, or 4,500 less than the week before and the same quantity short of last season's corresponding figure. Apple shipments totaled 5,170 cars, grapes 3,915, potatoes 2,775, and lettuce 720.

Oranges amounted to about 1,040 carloads from California, with 30 from Florida and light shipments from several Gulf States. Florida grapefruit movement reached 345 cars for the week; besides 180 from Texas, 10 from Arizona and about 20 imported carloads.

Spinach began moving from the Norfolk section of Virginia and Washington shipped about 20 cars. Green peas, chiefly from California and Arizona, decreased to 70 carloads. Of the

130 cars of cauliflower, Oregon supplied 60, Colorado 50, and Long Island 15. Movement of snap beans from Florida increased to 190 cars, while Virginia and the Carolinas decreased to 135.

Carlot movement of pears decreased greatly to 415 cars, but was twice that of a year ago. Washington originated 180, New York 110, and Oregon and California about 55 each.

Only 450 cars of tomatoes were shipped, about 435 of which came from California. The second or fall crop was beginning to move from Texas, with 6 carloads for the week.

COMMISSION REOPENS WESTERN CLASS RATE CASE

Class rates on freight within Western Trunk Line territory will be reconsidered by the Interstate Commerce Commission, which has announced that hearings will be held beginning December 7 at the Sherman Hotel, Chicago. While reopening the proceedings, the Commission denied the petition of the carriers for suspension of the Commission's order of last December and for restoration of the rates in effect previous to that order.

ARGENTINE DECREE MODIFIES CANNED FOOD REGULATIONS

With a view to rendering the regulations governing the packaging and labeling of imported canned and packaged foods more practical, an Argentine decree, dated August 20 and published in the Boletín Oficial of August 31, modifies these regulations with regard to the determination of acidity, and the labeling of packaged and canned goods, according to information furnished the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce by its Argentine office.

In the past the limit of acidity was that which required for its neutralization, using phenol phthalein as an indicator, six cubic centimeters of normal sodium hydroxide for neutralizing 100 grams of the liquid or paste. The new regulation permits the increase of acidity to that which requires the use of eight cubic centimeters of alkali for its neutralization, thus permitting the use of plain cans for a wider range of products.

The former requirements that individual packages must show the month and year of packing have been altered to require the month and year of packing only on products of non-seasonal manufacture. Products of annual or bi-annual harvest need show only the year of packing.

EXPORTS OF CANNED PIMIENTOS FROM SPAIN

The United States is the largest importer of Spanish canned pimientos, followed in order by Argentina, Algeria, and Italy.

During the 1930-31 season, from September to August inclusive, Spain exported about 15,611,000 pounds of canned pimientos, 32 per cent of which were taken by the United States. Up to the end of July of the 1931-32 season the Spanish exports were 11,781,759 pounds, of which the United States took 3,614,438 pounds, or about 30 per cent.

BUSINESS INDICATORS

(Weeks ended Saturday; weekly average 1923-1925=100)

	1932			1931		1930	
	Oct. 29	Oct. 22	Oct. 15	Oct. 31	Oct. 24	Nov. 1	Oct. 25
Composite Index:*							
New York Times		55.4	56.0	65.4	66.0	82.8	82.9
Business Week		54.5	55.4	68.2	68.7	81.9	83.8
Freight car loadings		67.0	67.9	77.4	80.3	97.5	100.1
Wholesale prices (Fisher's):							
All commodities	60.6	61.1	61.3	68.5	68.5	82.4	82.7
Agricultural products	44.3	44.8	44.9	53.9	54.3	83.4	83.9
Non-agricultural products	63.5	63.9	64.2	70.6	70.6	81.1	81.0
Bank debits outside N. Y. City	55.8	70.1	61.3	74.4	80.9	101.9	119.5
Bond prices	88.4	89.1	88.8	94.1	94.8	107.2	107.2
Stock prices	57.8	59.0	56.7	95.4	99.7	171.2	171.1
Interest rates:							
Call money	24.2	24.2	33.9	60.6	60.6	48.5	48.5
Time money	19.0	22.9	22.9	90.5	78.1	68.6	68.6
Business failures	135.1	131.4	123.6	130.2	135.4	123.3	120.6

* Relative to a computed normal taken as 100.

FISH IMPORTS INTO DUTCH EAST INDIES

Imports of canned sardines into the Dutch East Indies during the first half of 1932 were 57 per cent lower in volume and 50 per cent lower in value than for the corresponding period in 1931, according to the American trade commissioner at Batavia. The total imports of sardines for the first half of 1932 were 3,234,208 pounds, of which 1,913,961 pounds were imports direct from the United States and 621,397 pounds from Japan.

Interviews with the import managers of importing firms indicate a decided feeling that Japanese sardine imports will increase and that American imports will decline steadily unless American prices can be brought to the level of the Japanese.

American sardines are now selling at \$3.10 to \$3.20 per case of 48 ovals while Japanese sardines of the same packing are selling at 20 cents per case lower. Stocks of Japanese sardines are reported to be higher than those of American sardines.

Imports of canned salmon into the Dutch East Indies for the first half of 1932 amounted to 264,466 pounds, of which 62,492 pounds came from the United States. As compared with the first half of 1931, imports of Canadian salmon increased from 39,434 pounds to 75,404 pounds, while imports of canned

salmon from Great Britain dropped from 113,230 pounds to 68,772 pounds. Japanese canned salmon also came into the market, imports totaling 38,691 pounds against no imports during the first half of 1931.

JAPANESE CANNED CRAB MEAT PACK AND STOCKS

According to the American assistant trade commissioner at Tokyo, stocks of canned crab meat on hand in Japan at the end of August amounted to 251,043 cases.

The Nihon Godo Kosen Company's seven floating canneries which operate in the Kamchatka district were expected to return to Japan at the end of October. The total pack of these ships is reported to be 175,000 cases. The pack by land canneries this season is reported to be 43,000 cases, making a total of 218,000 cases. Last year the floating canneries put up 240,000 cases, and the land canneries 63,000 cases, or a total of 303,000 cases.

CONTENTS

	Page		Page
Ruling on juice classes tomato as vegetable	3085	Wholesale and retail prices	3091
Requests for tariff investigations denied	3085	Production and stocks of canned milk	3092
Stocks of canned foods on October 1	3085	Damping-off of vegetable seedlings	3092
Sardine imports increase over 57 per cent	3087	Canned food exports in September	3093
Corn pack in 1932	3087	Truck crop shipments show sharp decrease	3093
Hearing on canned fish imports	3088	Commission reopens Western Class Rate Case	3094
Production forecast of snap beans for canning	3089	Argentine decree modifies canned food regulations	3094
Imports of Japanese canned tuna steadily increase	3090	Exports of canned pimientos from Spain	3094
Racketeering again being practiced	3090	Fish imports into Dutch East Indies	3095
Winter vegetable crops in Cuba to be smaller	3091	Business indicators	3095
Tomato products imports	3091	Japanese canned crab meat pack and stocks	3096
Report on fishery industries in 1931	3091		